

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 /150 W

----- 094672

R 251210Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5609

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 7567

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: NAIM'S VIEWS ON AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS

1. WHEN I MET WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER, NAIM, OCTOBER 25 (SEPTELS), I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INQUIRE ABOUT NAIM'S VIEW OF INCREASED TENSIONS BETWEEN PAKS AND AFGHANS IN RECENT WEEKS.

2. NAIM LOOKED AT ME SOMBRELY AND SAID THAT HE UNFORTUNATELY COULD SEE NOTHING BUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF WORSENING RELATIONS AHEAD. HE CONFIRMED THAT TENSIONS WERE STEADILY RISING, AND ATTRIBUTED THE PROBLEM TO BHUTTO'S DETERMINATION TO "LOCK UP MEMBERS OF THE NAP AND NWFP AS COMMON CRIMINALS, WHEN THEIR ONLY CRIME HAS BEEN TO BE ELECTED TO PUBLIC OFFICE BY THE OPPOSITION PARTY." HE CITED RUMORS THAT WALI KHAN WOULD SOON LIKEWISE BE IMPRISONED AND CONTINUING "REPRESSIVE ACTIONS" AGAINST BOTH PUSHTUN AND BALUCH

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TRIBESMEN. HE EMPHASIZED THAT AFGHANISTAN "COULD NOT REMAIN

INDIFFERENT" TO THESE ACTIONS, ALL OF WHICH CONTRAVENE BHUTTO'S OWN RECENTLY ADOPTED CONSTITUTION.

3. WHEN I ASKED ABOUT THE STATE OF DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND HINTED THAT PERHAPS SOME SPECIAL EFFORT COULD BE MADE TO START A TRUE DIALOGUE LOOKING TOWARD A RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUES, NAIM SAID THAT UNFORTUNATELY IT TOOK TWO TO CARRY ON A DIALOGUE. ONE OF THE TWO PARTIES SEEMED TO BE COMPLETELY DEAF, AND THEREFORE NO DIALOGUE SEEMED POSSIBLE.

4. THE CONVERSATION WHICH HAD BEEN SOMBER BECAME INCREASINGLY DESULTORY AS HIS BLEAK PESSIMISM SEEMED TO DEFY MUCH FURTHER DISCUSSION. NOT WANTING TO INTERJECT THE US INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE "DIALOGUE OF THE DEAF," I TURNED THE SUBJECT TO OTHER MATTERS. BUT WHILE DAIM WAS GENTLE AND CERTAINLY NOT BELLICOSE, HIS FATALISTIC VIEW OF THE WORSENING OF RELATIONS WAS HARDLY ENCOURAGING.
LEWIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL REPRESSION, ARRESTS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL07567
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LEWIS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731012/aaaaaixd.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAIM'S VIEWS ON AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005